

Buena Vida Choice Neighborhood Plan  
Working Group Meeting 2 – Health, Wellness and Recreation

June 19, 2017

Housing Authority of the City of Brownsville

Included below is a summary of potential strategies and initial project ideas described by participants at the second Working Group Meeting.

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**Strategy 1: Strengthen educational partnerships and program integration**

1. Partner w/planned parenthood before December for woman's health event
2. Inventory services and provide simple handout for residents
3. Provide transportation every July to Operation Lone Star
4. Central location to advertise all services
5. Affiliation agreement with UTRGV students – health services and education

**Strategy 2: Encourage better nutrition and health eating**

1. Mobile market connect to Webb elementary (Old storage available) park at smaller corner groceries. Start with conversation to sell and explore loans
2. Identify areas to strategically locate community garden
3. Farm to table programs for kids
4. Consider smaller mid-week markets
5. Breast feeding classes education especially cost savings

**Strategy 3: Greater utilization of local and mobile resources**

1. UT Health Mobile Van – Scheduling and Promotion (Parks for 5 weeks)
2. Utilize medical clinic space within Webb Elementary
3. Lupe coming to site once a month/dental once a year – 4th of July Promotion, education for moms with handout listing vaccines checklist
4. Mobile vet ( Dr. Missy) discuss cost or low cost spay/neuter explore grant opportunities
5. Evaluate transit connections to medical uses and groceries – suggest potential route changes, more comfortable shelters, posting Schedules
6. More frequent street cleaning days by street sweeper (including inside Buena Vida) and announce cleaning days for cars in parking
7. Assign parking spaces for residents and visitors

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

### **Strategy 1: Increase utilization of existing recreational amenities**

1. Organize a “walking group” with the adults/seniors of the neighborhood – reach farther distance, achieve group goals (time and distance)
2. Mentorship program for youth – physical activities and sports through teen sports council
3. Expand “bike rodeo” to teach kids/children to learn how to be responsible bikers
4. Facilitate/organize transportation/groups to attend classes (swimming/aquarobics) at Dean Porter Park and Pool
5. Mentorship program for exercise routine with adults/elder – starting at Edelstein Park, with incentives and monitoring

### **Strategy 2: Improve neighborhood spaces to encourage recreation**

1. Designate a night to activate places around Buena Vida
2. Harrison-Ringgold-7th-17th= bicycle route
3. Create designated bike hub for Buena Vida residents where they can check out a bike
4. Space in former CTE building for a community gym
5. Edelstein Park – create safe areas for recreation
6. Space under freeway – recreational area